

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No. 09/765,639

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant is enclosing herewith one (1) sheet of replacement drawings. Step 289e in FIG. 4B has been amended to correct a typographical error. The submitted replacement drawing is believed to obviate the Examiner's objection.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

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REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 13-15 are canceled.

Claims 1, 6, and 9 are independent claims.

Formal Matters

The drawings filed September 3, 2004 are objected to by the Examiner; specifically, FIG. 4B contains a typographical error at 289e. Accordingly, Applicant has corrected this error in FIG. 4B.

The Abstract of the Disclosure is objected to because it exceeds 150 words in length.

Applicant has replaced the abstract with a shorter abstract.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner because of informalities. In response, Applicant has amended the specification.

In view of these amendments, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw these objections.

Claims Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa et al. (5,836,668) in view of “Press Release Archive” from Breault Research Organization (Breault) and Biermann et al. (5,6755,495).

As an initial matter, Applicant has added the recitations of canceled dependent claims 13-15 to independent claims 1, 6, and 9, respectively. This amendment does not raise any new issues but instead simplifies the issues, should an appeal become necessary. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this amendment be entered.

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Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are patentable at least because there is no combination of the applied references that would reasonably teach or suggest all of the recitations of these amended claims. For example, Applicant sees no combination of the applied references that would reasonably teach or suggest the claimed method, system, or computer-readable storage medium in which the design information represents a plurality of reflecting basic surfaces which constitute the reflecting mirror, in which the plurality of reflecting basic surfaces are discrete surfaces.

Ishikawa's basic reflection surface R_o , R_o' is not made up of "discrete surfaces," as is required by the amended claims. As shown in Ishikawa's Figs. 1, 2B, and 6, the basic reflection surface R_o , R_o' is not made up of "discrete surfaces," but instead is a continuous free-flowing surface.

Moreover, Ishikawa's reflection surface R cannot correspond to the recited "plurality of reflecting basic surfaces." With respect to independent claims 1 and 9, there is no teaching in Ishikawa of displaying attribute information concerning an attribute indicative of *whether imaginary light from the light source position can effectively reach a plurality of areas of the reflection surface R*. Instead, the only light source attribute information in Ishikawa is a determination of the incident angles of areas of the *preliminary set basic reflection surface R_o'* . Specifically, the method in Ishikawa determines whether areas of the preliminary set basic reflection surface R_o' have incident angles less than 80 degrees. *See* Ishikawa at 6:43-7:57. However, there is no discussion of displaying attribute information for the *reflection surface R*.

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Similarly, with respect to independent claim 6, there is no teaching in Ishikawa of transmitting attribute information concerning an attribute indicative of whether imaginary light from the light source position can effectively reach each of a plurality of areas of the reflection surface R.

Finally, neither Breault nor Biermann makes up for the deficiencies in Ishikawa discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claims 1, 6, and 9 for at least the reasons discussed above. In addition, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 2-6, 7, 8, and 10-12 at least because of their dependency from one of claims 1, 6, and 9.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 21, 2005

Attorney Docket No.: Q62740